Diplomatic History Speaker Series

John Lewis Gaddis

“George F. Kennan: An American Life”

Thursday, October 25, 2012
12:30 p.m.
Mershon Center for International Security Studies
1501 Neil Ave., Columbus, OH 43201

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John Lewis Gaddis is Robert A. Lovett Professor of History at Yale University. He is a noted historian of the Cold War and grand strategy, who has been hailed as the “Dean of Cold War Historians” by The New York Times.

Gaddis is the official biographer of the seminal 20th century statesman George F. Kennan, for which he won the Pulitzer Prize for Biography in 2012. He is also author of numerous other books, including: The United States and the Origins of the Cold War, 1941-1947 (1972); Strategies of Containment: A Critical Appraisal of Postwar American National Security (1982); The Long Peace: Inquiries into the History of the Cold War (1987); We Now Know: Rethinking Cold War History (1997); The Landscape of History: How Historians Map the Past (2002); Surprise, Security, and the American Experience (2004); and The Cold War: A New History (2006).

Gaddis founded and directed the Contemporary History Institute at Ohio University in 1987, and served as president of the Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations in 1992. He has also held visiting positions at the Naval War College, Oxford University, Princeton University, and the University of Helsinki. He was awarded the National Humanities Medal in 2005.

Gaddis received his PhD from the University of Texas in 1968.